SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

On page 1 replace between the title and the first paragraph "Description" with --

This application is the national stage of PCT/EP2004/007062 filed on June 30, 2004 and also claims Paris Convention priority of EP 03 014 909.0 filed on July 01, 2003.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --.

On page 3, insert as a title prior to the second paragraph

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --.

Please amend the second paragraph on page 3 as follows --

This purpose is achieved by a valve <u>and by a method</u>, having the features of claim 1 the independent claims. and by a method having the features of claim 12. --.

On page 6 insert as a title prior to the brief description of the drawing --

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING --.

Please amend the brief description of Fig. 14 on page 7 as follows --

Fig. 14 is a valve having a sealing surface prepared in accordance with Fig. 14 Fig. 13. --.

On page 7 insert as a title following the brief description of the drawing

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT --.

On page 15 replace as a title on line one "Claims" with

-- WE CLAIM: --